(d) to (f) Under the provision of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, Section 17(B) deems spurious drug as a medicine manufactured under a name which belongs to another drug, or if it is an imitation or substitute, wholly or partly of another drug, or if the lebel or container bears the name of a fictitious or nonexistent firm Section 27 of the said Act prescribes penal provisions for manufacture and sale of spurious drugs. Sale of spurious drug, if detected, is punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than five years but which may extent to a term of life and with fine which shall not be less than Rs. 10,000'-.

Hence there are adequate provisions in the Drugs and Cosmetics Act to tackle the problem of spurious drugs.

Medicine for Asthma

25. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India for the first time in the world has developed a medicine for the relief and remedy of Asthma;

(b) if so, what is its name; and

(c) whether the medicine has been duly tested and proved successful in curing the disease?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) According to Indian Institute of Chemical Biology (IICB), Kolkata of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) a herbal medicine for Asthma has been developed by that institute by the name of ASMON. Toxicity and efficacy of this medicine is stated to have been tested in animal model (guinea-pigs) which yielded successful results.